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Read and adopted, and 200 copies ordered to be printed.

By order,

JOHN M. MILLER, *Secretary.*

RULES

FOR THE

REGULATION & GOVERNMENT

OF THE

SENATE

OF MARYLAND.

JANUARY SESSION, 1882.

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RULES OF THE SENATE.

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS.

RULE I.

The President having taken the chair at the hour of meeting, the Senators shall take their seats and remain uncovered until the Senate adjourns. He shall immediately call the Senate to order, and, after divine service, shall cause the names of the Senators to be called in alphabetical order, and the Journal of the preceding day to be read and corrected, if errors be found therein.

RULE II.

After the reading and approval of the Journal, the order of business shall be as follows:

1. The presentation and disposition of petitions, memorials and other papers.
2. Orders.
3. Leaves to introduce Bills.
4. Introduction of Resolutions.
5. Reports of Standing Committees.
6. Reports of Select Committees.
7. Resolutions and Bills entitled to a second reading.
8. Resolutions and Bills entitled to a third reading.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

RULE III.

The President shall preserve order and decorum during the sessions of the Senate. He may speak on points of order in preference to other Senators; he shall vote on all questions, except in cases of appeal from his decision, and decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Senate by any Senator; and his decision shall be final unless reversed by a majority of the Senators present.

RULE IV.

He shall have the general direction of the Senate Chamber and the rooms adjoining thereto, and, in case of any disturbance or disorderly conduct therein shall have power to order the same to be cleared.

RULE V.

He shall have the right to call any Senator to perform the duties of the Chair, who is thereupon vested, during such time, with all the powers of the President, but his powers as such substitute shall not continue beyond the adjournment for the day.

RULE VI.

In case of his sickness or absence from the seat of government, a President *pro tempore* shall be elected by the Senate.

OF THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF SENATORS.

RULE VII.

Every Senator desiring to present a petition or other paper, to make a motion or report, or to speak in debate, shall rise and address the President, but shall not proceed further until recognized by the Chair.

RULE VIII.

No Senator shall speak more than once upon any subject until every other Senator wishing to speak shall have spoken, except by unanimous consent; and where two or more Senators rise at once the President shall determine which is entitled to the floor.

RULE IX.

No Senator shall, in debate, name any other Senator by his proper name, but shall designate him in some other way.

RULE X.

If a Senator shall be called to order by the President, or by another Senator, he shall take his seat until it shall be determined whether he be in order or not; and all questions of order shall be determined first by the President, without debate; but any Senator shall have the right of appeal from his decision to that of the Senate.

RULE XI.

There shall be a call of the Senate on the motion of any Senator, and the names of those Senators present shall be entered on the Journal. The Senators who are absent, although at the seat of government, shall be sent for by the Sergeant-at-Arms; and in case a less number than a quorum of the Senate shall convene, either on the first day of the session or on any other day to which the Senate has adjourned, the same powers shall be possessed as though a quorum were present as regards sending for absentees.

RULE XII.

No Senator shall absent himself from the seat of government without leave of the Senate.

RULE XIII.

The name of every Senator asking leave to introduce a bill, presenting an order or resolution, or moving to amend an order, bill or resolution, shall be entered on the Journal.

RULE XIV.

Every Senator present, when a question is put, shall give his vote, unless the Senate, for special reasons, shall excuse him; and if he refuse to vote when the yeas and nays are called, his name shall be noted on the Journal at the request of any Senator.

OF COMMITTEES.

RULE XV.

All committees shall be appointed by the President, unless otherwise specially directed by the Senate, in which case they shall be selected by ballot. The first named of every committee shall be chairman, but in his absence, or on being excused by the Senate, the next named member, and so on, shall act in his stead.

RULE XVI.

The following Standing Committees, which shall have leave to report by bill or otherwise, shall be appointed at the beginning of each session by the President, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate.

1. On Finance, to consist of five Senators.
2. On Judicial Proceedings, to consist of five Senators.
3. On Corporations and Joint Stock Companies, to consist of five Senators.
4. Internal Improvements, to consist of five Senators.
5. On Agriculture and Labor, to consist of five Senators.
6. On Education, to consist of five Senators.
7. On Elections, to consist of five Senators.
8. On Printing, to consist of five Senators.
9. On Pensions, to consist of five Senators.
10. On the Library, to consist of three Senators.
11. On Federal Relations, to consist of five Senators.
12. On the Contingent Expenses of the Senate, to consist of three Senators.
13. On Engrossed Bills, to consist of five Senators.
14. On the Militia, to consist of five Senators.
15. On the Chesapeake Bay and its Tributaries, to consist of five Senators.
16. On Retrenchment of the Expenses of the State, to consist of five Senators.
17. On Public Buildings in Annapolis, to consist of three Senators.
18. On Public Institutions, to consist of five Senators.

19. In accordance with 24th Section, Article 3, of the Constitution, to consist of five Senators.
20. On Executive Nominations, to consist of five Senators.
21. On Rules, to consist of the President and two Senators.
22. On Inspections, to consist of five Senators.
23. On the Sanitary condition of the State, to consist of five Senators.

RULE XVII.

All committees for conference of the Senate shall, if required, be elected by ballot, the number not to exceed five.

RULE XVIII.

No committee shall sit during the session of the Senate without special leave.

RULE XIX.

The Committee on Executive Nominations shall, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate, examine all nominations made by the Executive, with such recommendations and communications as the Executive may please to transmit with the same, and report thereon to the Senate.

RULE XX.

The Committee on Engrossed Bills shall examine all Senate bills and resolutions ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, and ascertain whether they have been properly and accurately transcribed, with all the amendments to the same that have been adopted by the Senate; they shall also examine all Senate bills and resolutions, passed by the House, and ascertain, in like manner, whether the same represent the final action of both Houses. The signatures of two members of the committee shall always be considered a necessary endorsement as to the accuracy of all such bills and resolutions.

O F B I L L S .

RULE XXI.

Every bill shall be introduced on motion for leave, and shall be immediately referred by the President to its appropriate Standing Committee, unless the Senate orders otherwise.

RULE XXII.

Every bill or resolution, originating in the Senate or received from the House, shall be read on three several days, unless the Senate by special order—two thirds of the Senators elect agreeing—dispense with the rule, and shall always be open to the examination of Senators when in the possession of the Senate.

RULE XXIII.

Every bill, or resolution, originated and passed by the House of Delegates, shall, after the first reading in the Senate, be referred to the appropriate Standing Committee, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate.

RULE XXIV.

Bills of a general character, and such as are amendatory of the charters of corporations, shall be printed after their first reading, but all bills may be printed, by order of the Senate, at any stage whatever.

RULE XXV.

Whenever any Senate bill or resolution shall have been read through a second time, with or without amendment, the President shall ask the question: “Shall this bill, or resolution, be engrossed for a third reading?” If this be decided in the negative, the bill, or resolution, shall be rejected; if in the affirmative, it shall be engrossed for a third reading.

RULE XXVI.

No amendment shall be received at the third reading of any bill, or resolution, originating in the Senate, unless by consent of two-thirds of the Senators present; but it shall be in order at all times, before the final passage of any such bill or resolution, to move its recommitment; and should such recommitment take place, and any amendment be reported by the committee, the said bill or resolution, as amended, shall be read, and such reading be considered a second reading, and then the question shall be put whether it shall be engrossed for a third reading, and if this question be decided in the

negative, the bill shall be rejected; if in the affirmative, it shall be engrossed for a third reading.

RULE XXVII.

Bills and resolutions from the House shall be open to amendments on their second and third reading.

RULE XXVIII.

A motion to strike out the enacting words of a bill shall have precedence of a motion to amend, and, if carried, shall be considered as equivalent to its rejection; and when a question is postponed indefinitely, the same shall not be acted on again during the session.

RULE XXIX.

All leaves to introduce bills to repeal or amend any Article or Section of the Code, shall refer to the subject of such Article or Section to facilitate the indexing of the same.

RULE XXX.

The President shall order every bill originating in the Senate, when passed by the General Assembly and sealed with the Great Seal, to be presented to the Governor for his approval.

OF MOTIONS AND THEIR PRECEDENCE.

RULE XXXI.

When a question is before the Senate no motion shall be received except as herein specified, which motions shall have precedence in the following order:

1. To adjourn.
2. To go into Executive Session.
3. To lay on the table.
4. To postpone indefinitely.
5. To postpone to a certain day.
6. To commit.
7. To recommit.
8. To strike out the enacting words.
9. To amend.

RULE XXXII.

A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate, but it cannot be received after another question is actually put, or while the Senate is actually engaged in voting by yeas and nays.

RULE XXXIII.

All motions shall be reduced to writing, if desired by the President or any Senator, and read by the Clerk before the same shall be debated, and after a motion is stated by the President, or read by the Clerk, it shall be deemed in the possession of the Senate, but may be withdrawn at any time before a decision or amendment, with the consent of the Senate.

RULE XXXIV.

Any member may call for the division of the question, which shall then be divided, if it comprehend propositions in substance so distinct that, one being taken away, a substantive proposition shall remain for the decision of the Chair.

RULE XXXV.

A motion to strike out and insert shall be deemed indivisible; but the matter proposed to be inserted may be divided, if required, according to Rule XXXIV; the motion to strike out being lost, shall preclude neither amendment nor a motion to strike out and insert; no motion or proposition on a subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted under color of amendment.

RULE XXXVI.

When a question has once been put and carried in the affirmative or negative, by yeas and nays, it shall be in order for any member voting with the prevailing side to move for the reconsideration thereof; but in cases where the question has failed for want of a constitutional majority, it shall be in order for any member voting on either side of the question to move for the reconsideration thereof, and in all cases where the vote has not been taken by yeas and nays, any Senator

may move a reconsideration: but no vote for the reconsideration of any vote shall be in order after a bill, resolution, message, report, amendment or motion, upon which the vote was taken, shall have gone out of the possession of the Senate announcing its decision: nor shall any motion for reconsideration be in order unless made on the same day on which the vote was taken, or within the next two days of actual session of the Senate thereafter.

RULE XXXVII.

All questions shall be determined by a majority of the Senators present, except such as are otherwise provided for by the rules of the Senate.

RULE XXXVIII.

Every question shall be entered on the Journal, and the vote taken by yeas and nays if required by a Senator.

RULE XXXIX.

Petitions, memorials and other papers addressed to the Senate shall be presented by the President, or by a member in his place, and the object of all petitions and memorials shall be endorsed on the back and entered on the Journal.

RULE XL.

When a blank is not filled up, and different sums, numbers or times shall be proposed, the question shall first be taken on the largest sum or number, and on the longest time.

RULE XLI.

Any member, on motion or in debate, may call for the reading of any law, journal, record or other public proceedings which may relate to the subject matter under consideration.

RULE XLII.

The unfinished business in which the Senate was engaged at the preceding adjournment shall have preference in the orders of the day; and no motion or any other business shall be received, without the special leave of the Senate, until the former is disposed of.

RULE XLIII.

The Secretary of the Senate shall lay upon the desk of the President, every morning, all bills, resolutions and motions pending before the Senate, in the order of time in which they were reported or presented for consideration; and at all times while the Senate is sitting, when no motion is under consideration, the President shall, without any motion, take up said bills, resolutions and motions in the above order, and present them for the consideration of the Senate, and they shall then be considered and acted upon unless postponed by order of the Senate.

OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS.

RULE XLIV.

When acting on Executive business, the Senate shall be cleared of all persons except the Secretary, Journal Clerk, Reading Clerk and Sergeant-at-Arms.

RULE XLV.

A distinct and separate Journal shall be prepared and kept by the Secretary of the Executive proceedings of the Senate.

RULE XLVI.

The rules which now govern the Senate in the Legislative Sessions shall govern it in Executive Sessions, except so far as they may be modified by these or other rules.

RULE XLVII.

When nominations shall be made in writing by the Governor to the Senate, a future day shall be assigned for their consideration unless the Senate unanimously direct otherwise.

RULE XLVIII.

When the President shall understand that the Senate is prepared to decide upon any pending nomination, he shall put the question: "Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of to the office of?" And if required by any Senator, the said question shall be determined by taking the yeas and nays.

RULE XLIX.

All confidential communications made by the Govenor to the Senate shall be by the members and officers thereof kept secret until the Senate shall, by order or resolution, take off the injunction of secrecy ; this rule is not to impose secrecy as to who are the nominees to office, unless specially ordered by the Senate.

RULE L

All information or remarks touching or concerning the character or qualifications of any person nominated by the Governor shall be kept secret.

RULE LI.

All nominations definitely acted on by the Senate shall be returned by the Secretary to the Governor, from day to day, as they may occur ; and when requested by the Governor, authenticated transcripts of the Executive Records of the Senate may, by order of the Senate, be furnished to him ; and all original papers touching the Executive proceedings of the Senate shall be carefully filed in the office of the Secretary of the Senate, and there preserved, unless requested to be returned by the Governor, or ordered to be so returned by the order of the Senate ; and no Executive business shall be made known or published by the Secretary, or any other officer, without the special direction of the Senate.

RULE LII.

It shall not be permitted to any Senator in the form of any order, resolution or otherwise, to place upon the Journal any observation made by himself or another, touching the character or fitness for office of any individual.

RULE LIII.

The secrecy enjoined by Rules XLIX and L, shall be construed to apply to all proceedings in Executive Session, except the names of nominees, and the confirmation or rejection thereof, without the privilege of assigning reasons pending the injunction or disclosing the vote or opinion of any Senator.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

RULE LIV.

Whenever it shall be determined by the joint resolution of the two branches of the General Assembly or otherwise, that the General Assembly will finally adjourn on a particular day, the Senate shall, at least twenty-four hours before such contemplated adjournment, communicate the fact through their Secretary to the Governor, and request to be informed whether he has any further communications to make.

RULE LV.

No person shall be admitted within the bar of the Senate Chamber but members of the Executive and Judiciary Departments, members of the House of Delegates, Ex-Governors, former members of the Legislature, and such other persons as may be invited by the President or members of the Senate.

RULE LVI.

During the recess of the Legislature, the Senate Chamber, Committee Rooms and President's Room shall be under the care and control of the Secretary of the Senate.

RULE LVII.

It shall not be necessary, in organizing the Senate, to require the presence of any former officers, except the Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms and Door-Keeper, nor shall any others be paid for such attendance.

RULE LVIII.

No rule shall be suspended without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members of the Senate.

RULE LIX.

No motion to rescind a rule shall be received unless notice of the motion shall have been given on a previous day.

RULE LX.

The rules of parliamentary practice comprised in Jefferson's Manual shall govern the Senate in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the standing rules and orders of the Senate.

RULE LXI.

All Orders or Resolutions involving the appropriation of money from the Treasury of the State shall be referred to the Committee on Finance, and not be acted upon by the Senate until said committee report thereon.



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